

Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01 JIDDA 03436 071359Z
ACTION SS-25

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SSO-00 /026 W
-----038735 071418Z /46

P 071300Z MAY 78
FM AMEMBASSY JIDDA
TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 1981

C O N F I D E N T I A L JIDDA 3436

EXDIS

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: PPDC, SA
SUBJECT: LETTER FROM KING KHALID TO PRESIDENT CARTER

1. EMBASSY HAS RECEIVED LETTER FROM KING KHALID FOR DELIVER-
Y TO PRESIDENT CARTER. FOLLOWING IS EMBASSY'S INFORMAL
TRANSLATION:

2. BEGIN TEXT: HIS EXCELLENCY, JIMMY CARTER, PRESIDENT OF
THE UNITED STATES. YOUR EXCELLENCY: WE ARE FOLLOWING WITH
EXTREME INTEREST ALL OF YOUR EFFORTS AND THE UNFAIR ATTACKS
YOU ARE FACING BECAUSE OF YOUR GRAVE AND HONORABLE POSI-
TIONS AND BECAUSE OF YOUR FIRM AND DECISIVE STAND ON THE SIDE
OF RIGHT AND JUSTICE IN REGARD TO THE RESTORATION OF SECURITY
AND STABILITY TO THE TERRITORY OF OUR INFLAMED REGION,
WHERE THE FORCES OF EVIL AND AGGRESSION ARE FANNING THE
FLAMES TO MAKE OUR AREA AN EASY PREY FOR DESTRUCTION AND
ANNEXATION TO THEIR SPHERE OF INFLUENCE.

3. YOUR EXCELLENCY, YOU ARE MOST CERTAINLY AWARE THAT THE
SALE OF F-15 AIRCRAFT WHICH WE HAVE REQUESTED FROM THE
UNITED STATES WILL FILL ONLY A SMALL GAP IN OUT ARRANGE-
MENTS FOR DEFENDING OUR VAST COUNTRY, WHICH IS SURROUNDED
BY DANGER ON EVERY SIDE. YOU ARE ALSO AWARE THAT WHAT
WE HAVE REQUESTED REPRESENTS, ACCORDING TO YOUR EXPERS,
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ONLY THE MINIMUM THAT WILL ALLOW THE KINGDOM TO DEFEND
ITS FRONTIERS.

4. WE KNOW THAT THERE ARE SOME ELEMENTS TRYING TO PUT
CONDITIONS ON AND OBSTACLES TO THE COMPLETION OF THIS
SALE. THESE CONDITIONS ARE EITHER ON THE MATTERS OF NUM-
BERS OR ON THE SPECIALIZED EQUIPMENT THIS AIRCRAFT WILL

INCLUDE. IF THIS EQUIPMENT IS REMOVED OR MODIFIED, THE FIGHTING CAPABILITIES OF THE AIRCRAFT WILL BE GREATLY WEAKENED. THEREFORE WE WOULD LIKE FOR YOUR EXCELLENCY TO FEEL OUR ANXIETY ABOUT WHAT WE HAVE MENTIONED, ALTHOUGH WE ARE COMPLETELY CONFIDENT THAT YOUR EXCELLENCY WILL SET MATTERS ON THEIR PROPER COURSE.

5. WE APPRECIATE THE SINCERE EFFORTS YOUR EXCELLENCY IS MAKING FOR THE SAKE OF STRENGTHENING THE EXISTING TIES OF FRIENDSHIP AND COOPERATION BETWEEN OUR TWO COUNTRIES AND OUR TWO FRIENDLY PEAPLES. WE APPRECIATE THESE EFFORTS MADE TO BENEFIT BOTH OUR NATIONS AND TO SUPPORT ENDEAVORS TO BRING PEACE IN THE REGION BASED ON RIGHT AND JUSTICE.

6. WE WISH YOUR EXCELLENCY THE BEST OF HEALTH AND SUCCESS. GOD PROTECT YOU. SIGNED, KHALID BIN ABD AL-AZIZ AL SAUD. MAY 3, 1978. END TEXT.

7. EMBASSY IS SENDING ORIGINAL LETTER BY POUCH.
WILEY

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NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: Z
Capture Date: 01 jan 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: POLITICAL SETTLEMENT, DIPLOMATIC COMMUNICATIONS, FOREIGN POLICY POSITION
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 07 may 1978
Decaption Date: 20 Mar 2014
Decaption Note: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 20 Mar 2014
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1978JIDDA03436
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Expiration:
Film Number: D780194-0610
Format: TEL
From: JIDDA
Handling Restrictions:
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1978/newtext/t19780585/aaaacuox.tel
Line Count: 82
Litigation Code IDs:
Litigation Codes:
Litigation History:
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Message ID: 5ef5b4a2-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Office: ACTION SS
Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: ONLY
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Previous Handling Restrictions: ONLY
Reference: n/a
Retention: 0
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 05 jul 2005
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review Media Identifier:
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
SAS ID: 2768311
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: LETTER FROM KING KHALID TO PRESIDENT CARTER
TAGS: PPDC, SA, US, XY
To: STATE
Type: TE
vdkgvwkey: odhc://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/5ef5b4a2-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Review Markings:
Sheryl P. Walter
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
20 Mar 2014
Markings: Sheryl P. Walter Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 20 Mar 2014